

# The Times-Dispatch INDUSTRIAL SECTION

THE TIMES-DISPATCH FOUNDED 1886.  
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1850.

WHOLE NUMBER 17,579.

RICHMOND, VA., SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 1907.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## GREAT WHITE CITY AND ITS BUSINESS

Frank G. Carpenter Tells  
About Mohammedan  
Tunis and Its Bazaars.

## PERFUMES WORTH WEIGHT IN GOLD

Facts About the Habous, or the  
Great Arabian Trust—Casino,  
Where Audience Gambles  
Between Acts—Strange  
Customs of an In-  
teresting People.

BY FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Tunis. Take a seat upon one of the magic carpets of the Arabian Nights and fly across the Atlantic Ocean and over the Mediterranean to the shores of North Africa. Direct your gaze to set you down beside me on the top of the kasbah, in this snow-white city of Tunis, and let us travel together through this, one of the oldest populations of the oriental world. Before we start cast your eyes over the vast expanse of buildings below you. We are high above the city and it stretches about on all sides, looking like great blocks of ice, with here and there the white dome of a marabout or Mohammedan saint, and the square marble-faced towers of a mosque rising above them. That reddish-brown section of buildings, lying beyond on the edge of the water, is the new French quarter; and that wide, gloomy avenue running across Lake Tunis, is the canal which has been recently built to bring the great ocean steamers right up to the town. There are blue mountains on our right with white buildings upon them, and away off at the left over the lake we see the snowy houses of Sidi Bou Said and the white cathedral which marks the site where old Carthage once stood. That was a mighty city more than twenty-five centuries ago, but this town, above which we are standing, was founded even before Carthage, and it thrived until it was supplanted by the Phoenician rival, Cosmopolitan Tunis.

The Tunis of today is rapidly growing, and it is now one of the most cosmopolitan towns of the world. It contains, with its suburbs, in the neighborhood of one hundred thousand souls. It has something like fifty thousand Italians; it has fifty thousand Jews, far different in race and appearance from the Israelites of our country; and also thousands of Maltese, Sicilians and Spaniards. Its French are somewhat fewer than the Italians, but they include a large garrison of soldiers, dressed in gay uniforms, who form striking figures wherever they go.

The most important part of the Tunisian population is the Mohammedan element. This numbers at least one hundred thousand, and its members form the chief inhabitants of old Tunis. They are the original owners of the town, and they live in a world of their own. They do not like Christians and tolerate us only because they must. Their town is shut off from the rest of the city by an enormous wall, and the French rule is such that they are allowed to have their own customs and laws which they will not go through. They do not enter any one of the hundred old mosques, where they go daily for prayers; he must not visit their schools, and he who would attempt to go into one of their houses without permission might be killed and I doubt if the French would object.

I have visited most of the great cities of the oriental world; I have traveled through India, Turkey and Egypt, and I have yet to find a section so strictly eastern as the streets of Tunis. They are narrow and winding. In some of them you can touch the walls on both sides, and others are so narrow that the fat Tunisian Jews have to suck in their breath in order to pass. The walls are almost without windows, and the few windows which exist are so high up above the street that a field glass would not enable one to look in. They are also covered with meshes, so small that a hand pencil would not go through them. The doors are kept closed, and outside the business section there are nothing but blank white walls on both sides. Many of the houses are built over the streets, and one goes through vaulted passages over one part of the town to the other.

In the Bazaars. But let us step down into the city and see for ourselves. We shall spend most of the time in the bazaars. They are stranger than those of Constantinople or Cairo and of greater extent than the bazaars of Damascus or Fez. There is an entrance right near the kasbah, and a three minutes' walk will take us out of the sun and into a mammoth cave, far stranger than that of Kentucky.

## SCENES IN LIFE OF TUNIS, AFRICA'S GREAT WHITE CITY.



In The Bazaars.

## SOUTHERN MILLS IN EXCELLENT SHAPE

Summerfield Baldwin Puts Them  
Ahead of Eastern  
Plants.

## CONSTRUCTION IS MODERN

Cotton Manufacturers Have Made  
Great Strides of Late  
Years.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BALTIMORE, June 1.—Mr. Summerfield Baldwin, of Baltimore, has recently made a tour of inspection of a number of cotton mills in the Piedmont section of the Carolinas and Georgia, and is much impressed with the wonderful advancements in most every line of business, but especially in the cotton mills and in municipal improvements. In an interview with the Manufacturers' Record this week he says:

"All of the mills more recently erected are equipped with modern buildings, with houses and grounds surrounding them, the latter being attractively laid off. The mill villages everywhere are being greatly improved, having streets well paved and lighted and with sidewalks in most cases equal to those found anywhere. New residences and stores and other buildings are to be noted in all of them. All of the mills, as far as my observation led, are being run successfully, intelligently and in a most up-to-date manner. The average equipment of the Southern cotton mills today in the way of buildings and machinery is higher than that of Northern mills, this being due to the fact that the buildings constructed at a later date have embodied in them the very latest improvements and are designed especially for the most modern machinery."

"While what I have said refers especially to the cotton mills, so far as my observation extended it applies to the regular class of industry. Most of the labor for the cotton mills heretofore was drawn from native help, but, owing to the high price obtained for cotton, they are staying on the plantations, and have no incentive to work in the cotton mills. A number of the mills now have a large number of the mills beyond and bring back laborers for their mills. These are provided with houses, and are educated to work in the mills. The mills are also doing much to better the surroundings of their employees, and many of them appropriate money to supplement the regular school funds, so that the schools may be kept open for the full term. They also provide playgrounds, baseball grounds and assist their employees in either building union churches or denominational churches, while public halls are built for entertainment and such purposes. Some of the mills are operating savings banks as a community interest to enable their employees to save their wages and purchase their own homes. Taken altogether, the section through which I have traveled is broadening and improving in a wonderful way, and there is every evidence that the future will see this prosperity continue unabated, but that even greater results will be accomplished along all lines."

## COMMISSIONERS IN S. C.

Agents' Association Will Consider  
Question at June Meeting.

The South Carolina Agents' Association has issued a call for a meeting June 18th next. In regard to the commission question they naively remark: "Another feature will be the discussion and probable adoption of resolutions relative to a change in commission basis from the present plan to that of 15 per cent. flat and 10 per cent. contingent. Similar resolutions have already been adopted by the associations of other Southern States that have already met, and most likely will be by those yet to meet, and it is believed that the united action of all the associations will accomplish the desired purpose. The plan is equitable and if it becomes effective will greatly increase the possible income of each agent, and in no instance can that income be decreased except by failure to continue the present volume of business."



The White City of Tunis.

## MOUNTAIN WASTES GROW FINEST FRUIT

Mr. Winfield Scott Transforms  
Vast Territory Into Beautiful  
and Paving Orchard.

## MANY THOUSANDS OF TREES

Orchard Now Consists of Nearly  
50,000 Fruit-Bearing Trees,  
of Many Varieties.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] FLOYD, VA., June 1.—Situated among three mountains, called "Haycock," on the summit of the Blue Ridge, some 2,500 feet above the sea level, in the rough hilly and mountainous country of Floyd, is a fine fruit orchard, owned by Mr. Winfield Scott, merchant, bank cashier and a prominent business man of this village.

Mr. Scott is the owner of a large boundary for the distance of eight miles, broken here and there by original forests, field, pasture, and farming land. Over half of the orchard has been set out within the past three years, and his reason for planting originally was based on the belief that in this section of the Blue Ridge, the soil was better adapted to the raising of fruit than anywhere else, and when this waste land was planted it was an experiment, and the fruit from the same was fed for a time to hogs and cattle.

In the spring of 1891, he started with about 4,000 apples, and 400 pears, and has continued planting until it now consists of 30,000 apples, 8,000 peaches, 8,000 pears, some quince, apricots, cherries and English walnuts. The variety of apples chosen were Paradise, Winter Sweet, Ben Davis, Johnston Fine Winter, Virginia Beauty and numbers of other famous apples, the Alabamian pippin included. All have thrived well, and the quality of the fruit is fine.

There is a ready market at all times for the apples, the brandy distillers taking them at twenty-five cents a bushel, and also shippers of quantities of apples and pears, which find, from their quality, a ready market, having in one year harvested and sold \$5,000 worth. Mr. Scott also runs a cannery in connection with his other business, and finds a ready sale for the fruit canned from his mountain orchard.

## STATE LAWS SCARE TIMID INVESTORS

Southern Financier Blames Them  
for Drop in Railroad  
Stocks.

## IT CHECKS DEVELOPMENT

Roads Afraid to Put Out New  
Capital While Agitation  
Is On.

J. W. Hyde, of Jacksonville, Fla., one of the big lumber men of the South, is quoted as saying in Washington: "Within the near future I expect to see some big railroad placed in the hands of a receiver. I do not care to name the road. It has been placed in its present condition partially by the campaign waged by several of the States. President Roosevelt's attitude has had considerable to do with discouraging investors in railroads, but I think that most of the mischief has been caused by the States; they have scared people having money to such a hard time getting cash needed for development."

"The president of a Southern road told me that he had spent many sleepless nights in an effort to obtain a loan of \$10,000,000. The price of the railroad, the way the money, to make it possible, is scared away."

"We are particularly interested in the South because we do not want any setback at this time. Without a penny, the South will be entirely independent within three or four years. As it is, the people of that section have more money to-day than they ever had before. It seems, however, that we have been going too fast, and that some sort of a depression will come in the near future. We should accept the warning that has been given and prepare for it."

## WAGE ADVANCE IS GENERAL.

Upward Movement Includes 200,000 New England Operatives.

BOSTON, June 1.—The upward movement in the wages of New England mill operatives, of whom there are nearly 200,000, has become general, and it is expected that within the next few days notices of an advance will be posted in many of the mills which have not already informed their employees of an increase.

## DOING GOOD WORK FOR OUR FARMERS

Review of What Has Been Accomplished by the Virginia  
State Farmers' Institute.

## GROWING INTEREST SHOWN

Attendance Has Increased in  
Three Years to Twelve  
Hundred.

BLACKSBURG, VA., June 1.—The Virginia State Farmers' Institute was organized in August, 1904. The first gathering and all succeeding ones have been held in the city of Roanoke on account of its central location and the generous hospitality extended to the members by its citizens. The need of an organization the object of which would be to promote the best interests of the farmers of Virginia from the standpoint of education and co-operation has long been felt, but the movement had never taken definite shape before. The first meeting was not largely attended, probably not more than one hundred persons being present. The next year, however, a better organization had been effected, and the gathering was an enthusiastic one, nearly three hundred members being enrolled, and the aggregate attendance approximating six hundred. The organization was now well established, and in 1906 the largest and most enthusiastic meeting of farmers ever held in the State assembled in Roanoke in July, there being more than twelve hundred persons present at the different sessions, and six hundred being enrolled as members. That the meeting was a representative one is borne out by the fact that fifty-five county vice-presidents were elected, all of whom were bona fide members of the institute.

What Has Been Done. Two annual reports have been published and distributed. The first of these contained 150 pages of printed matter, and is a valuable contribution to the agricultural literature of the State, as it contains the addresses of many of the most successful farmers in the State and of leading scientists from various sections of the country as well. The report for 1906 contains 260 pages of printed matter, being more comprehensive and valuable in every way than the previous report. Such in brief is the history of the State Farmers' Institute up to the present time. The benefits flowing from the work of the institute have been many and of a comparatively insignificant beginning to a condition where it occupies a prominent place in the agricultural affairs of the State, and is one of the most representative organizations of its kind in the South.

The institute through its membership can lay some claim to having given a renewed impetus to agricultural progress in Virginia. Through its meetings and its published reports and the inspiring influence of its members, many have been led to see that science, when rationally applied to the problems of the farm, breaks down what have seemed to be insurmountable barriers. Inspiration and the determination to excel, the outcome of friendly rivalry and the exchange of thoughts and views are of themselves accomplishments of no mean proportions.

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## REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING NEWS

A Big Deal in Suburban  
Property by J. Thompson  
Brown & Co.

## BROOKDALE LAND BRINGS BIG SUM

Boulevard Residence Park—  
Owners Much Elated at Im-  
provements—Ginter Park  
Forging to Front as  
Social Cen-  
tre.

A member of one of the leading real estate firms said, in reply to a question as to the record of the week's transactions in real estate: "We are not thinking real estate this week. There sits a man," pointing to a prosperous-looking business man seated near the office door, "who is about to close a \$300,000 deal through us, but with the town packed with the old veterans, among whom are scores of friends, what can we do but waive business and give our office and personal attention to our visitors?"

The Times-Dispatch man found this case only a representative one of many offices visited, the real estate agents being busily engaged in extending the proverbial Richmond hospitality to the hosts of friends and visitors who are in the city.

There isn't an absolute lull in trading, however, for a healthy movement is reported along normal lines, but several large deals are being given second place in deference to the general atmosphere of good cheer that prevails throughout the city.

The cessation of activities last week will no doubt result in some lively work during the next few days, as quite a number of deals which were delayed on account of reunion festivities will be brought to a final close as soon as possible, and the lost time be made up.

Building continues active, and all the trades are very busy. The coming summer will no doubt see greater activity than has been witnessed in building circles for some time.

Deal in Suburban Property. A deed of "bargain and sale" was recorded yesterday by Mr. Irving E. Campbell in Henrico County Court from J. Thompson Brown and LeRoy E. Brown and wives, conveying to the Brookdale Corporation about ninety (90) acres of land, including Ginter Park, at \$2,821. This is the culmination of an extensive deal in real estate, partial notice of which has heretofore appeared in these columns.

Mr. LeRoy E. Brown, junior, member of the firm, says that the property consists of several tracts acquired by him and his brother many years ago, in fact long before any purchase was made by the late Major Lewis Ginter in this direction. They have been approached time and again by parties to purchase the property, having held it at \$1,000 per acre. It is considered among the very best suburban tracts adjacent to Richmond, and many flattering offers have been declined by them for it.

Several months ago, after quite a negotiation, Mr. Irving E. Campbell obtained an option on the property at \$500 per acre, and he associated with him Messrs. C. C. Walton, Jr., and C. A. Holle, of Norfolk. These three gentlemen have just succeeded in organizing a syndicate to take up the option. It is said that the syndicate is composed of some of the best and most substantial business men and citizens in Richmond and Norfolk. Their intention is at once to develop the tract; and to the tract, which has been chartered the Brookdale Corporation, under which name this beautiful tract will be subdivided into good-sized lots, streets graded, and other improvements made. The property will be sold on the installment plan. The officers of the company are E. R. Creevy, Jr., president; Langbourne M. Williams, vice-president; C. C. Walton, secretary; Irving E. Campbell, treasurer and general counsel, and the directors the above, with the addition of Messrs. Warner Moore, E. A. Sheppard and C. C. Holle.

It will be under the immediate management of Mr. Irving E. Campbell, president of the corporation, who very recently developed "Lee Annex Corporation" and carried it to a most successful conclusion. The property will be divided into lots, which will be sold on the installment plan. They will be surrounded by granolithic walks and other improvements. Mr. Brown says that the original parties who went into Lee Annex Corporation realized a \$1 for \$1 for their investment. After closing out Lee Annex Mr. Creevy next exploited "Park Place" Addition, and also made a pronounced success of it.

This investment of Mr. Creevy and his friends in Brookdale Corporation is predicted by those who know the man who are interested in it as likely to be the most successful one yet undertaken by them.

Boulevard Residence Park. The Bunting-McNeal Real Estate Company purchased "Boulevard Residence Park" fronting several hundred feet on one of Richmond's most fashionable drives, the Boulevard, about eighteen months ago, and feel they have been very fortunate in the investment, as the property has since been annexed, and is now a part of the city. As the sewer is now ready for use, it will give the lot owners and those who build every convenience the city affords.

Richmond also has reasons for congratulating its anxious "Boulevard Residence Park" as the company, in addition to having given some of the most beautiful home sites imaginable to the city, have laid granolithic sidewalks and curbing about the whole property and on Colonial Avenue, which

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